



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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March 22, 2007

TO: All licensed hospice agencies

FROM: Facilities Services and Licensing  
Michael Johnson, Program Manager, In-Home Services

RE: 1) CPR TRAINING FOR HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS, and  
2) ON-SITE EVALUATIONS FOR HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS

We were asked to clarify WAC 246-335-065 (8) and (10) regarding 1) CPR training for hospice volunteers and 2) on-site observations of care for hospice volunteers. After consultation with the Washington State Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, the in-home survey staff and Facilities & Services Licensing management, we are providing the following clarification.

1) WAC 246-335-065(8) Current cardiopulmonary resuscitation training consistent with agency policies and procedures for direct care personnel and contractors in home health and hospice agencies, and hospice care centers;

**Hospice agency volunteers are required to be current in CPR training (per the agency policy) if, (1) they are volunteering in their capacity as a licensed, certified or registered health professional such as an RN, LPN or certified nursing assistant, and (2) they are providing hands on care to the hospice patient in their capacity as a health professional.**

**Volunteers who are not performing tasks within their capacity as health professionals, are not required to be current in CPR training.**

2) WAC 246-335-065 (10) Annual performance evaluations of all personnel and volunteers providing direct patient or client care, including on-site observation of care and skills specific to the care needs of patients or clients;

**Hospice agency volunteers are required to have an on-site observation of care and skills specific to the care needs of patients or clients as part of an annual evaluation if, they are providing hands on care to the hospice patient. Hands on care includes but is not limited to massage, shampoo, sponge bath or services of a health professional if the volunteer is performing services within their scope of practice while volunteering.**

**Volunteers who are not performing hands-on services are not required to have an on-site observation of care and skills specific to the care needs of patients or clients. Examples of such tasks include but are not limited to reading, talking, meal preparation or letter writing.**

If you have any questions, contact Michael Johnson, Program Manager, In-Home Services, (206)366-2638, [michael.johnson@doh.wa.gov](mailto:michael.johnson@doh.wa.gov) Thank you